

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/087,868

Examiner

Duc C. Ho

Applicant(s)

SWONK ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03-02-02.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-53, 59, 54-58, 60-89, 93, 90-92, 94-106. Renumbered 1-106, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 03-02-02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reason for Allowance

1. Regarding claims 1-50, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a central access device to enable transmission of data between at least one user device and a gateway service device via a communication network and at least one remote access device, the central access device comprising a first module configured to receive from the communication network a packet including the data, a first address associated with the user device, and a second address associated with the at least one remote access device, to remove the second address from the packet, and to transmit the data and the first address to the gateway service device, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 1, and 28.

Regarding claims 51-60, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a central access device for facilitating communication between a user device and a gateway service device, the central access device comprising a first module configured to receive from a first communication network a first packet including data generated by the user device and a user device address, to receive from a second communication network a second packet including data generated by the gateway service device and the user device address, to extract from the first packet the data and the user device address, to add to the second packet a second packet header including a remote access device address, to transmit the first packet to the gateway service device over the second communication network, and to transmit the second packet to the remote access device over the first communication network, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 51.

Regarding claim 61, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a central access device comprising means for receiving data generated by one of a plurality of user devices from a routed communication network, each of the user devices communicatively connected to one of a plurality of remote access devices connected to the communication network, and means for transmitting the data to a gateway service device over a switched communication network, in combination with other limitations.

Regarding claim 62, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a central access device comprising means for determining which one of a plurality of access devices is communicatively connected to the one of the plurality of user devices, each of the remote access devices and the central access device connected to a communication network, and means for transmitting the data to the one of the plurality of remote access devices, in combination with other limitations.

Regarding claims 63-87, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for transmitting data between a user device and a gateway service device, the method comprising the step of transmitting the user device address, the data and a first access device address from the first access device to a second access device via a communication network, and transmitting the data and the user device address from the second access device to the gateway service device, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 63.

Regarding claims 88-93, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for transmitting data between a user device and a gateway service device, the method comprising the step of transmitting data and a user device address from the gateway service device to a second access device, and by the second access device, retrieving from a memory a first access device address corresponding to the user device address, the first access device address identifying a first access

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device communicatively connected to the user device, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 88.

Regarding claims 94-103, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a system for transmitting data, the system comprising a gateway service device configured to receive from the central access device the data and the user device address associated with the sending one of the plurality of user devices, wherein the central access device includes a memory storing a correspondence between each user device address and a RAD address associated with the at least one of the plurality of remote access device is communicatively connected, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 94.

Regarding claim 104, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a system for transmitting data, the system comprising a gateway service device, wherein the gateway service device sends the data to the central access device, and the central access device retrieves from the memory the identity of the one of the plurality of remote access devices communicatively connected with the intended recipient and transmits the data to the identified remote access device, in combination with other limitations.

Regarding claim 105, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for providing a gateway service to a user device, the method comprising the steps in which by the central access device, storing information indicating that the user device is communicatively connected to the remote access device, and providing the gateway service during the communication session including receiving data from the third party and communicating the data to the user device via the central access device and the remote access device, in combination with other limitations.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-3147. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (571) 272-3155.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner



Duc Ho

12-15-05